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Letter dated 13 January 2005 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism addressed to the President of the Security Council

On 15 October 2004, the Committee established pursuant to paragraph 6 of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) (the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC)) submitted a work programme for the thirteenth 90-day period (S/2004/820). Annexed hereto is the Committee's work programme for the fourteenth 90-day period, which covers the months from January to March 2005 (see annex).

The activities of CTC will proceed in compliance with the provisions of Security Council resolutions 1535 (2004) and 1566 (2004).

The Committee will continue to work with Member States on monitoring the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), guided by the principles of cooperation, transparency and equal treatment. The Committee will remain focused on strengthening the consensus within the international community on the importance of combating terrorism, undertaking practical measures designed to enhance the counter-terrorism capacity of States; helping to identify and address the problems faced by States in implementing Council resolution 1373 (2001); and contributing to the process of increasing the number of States that are parties to the relevant international conventions and protocols. All of these tasks will be fulfilled in accordance with the Committee's mandate, as set out in paragraph 6 of the resolution, to monitor its implementation.

During the period covered by the fourteenth work programme, CTC will continue its efforts to complete the revitalization process, in particular, to ensure that the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate becomes fully operational. In accordance with Security Council resolution 1566, CTC will enhance cooperation with the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban, and the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004).

The effective facilitation of technical assistance and enhancing cooperation with international organizations will remain one of the major areas of CTC activities. It will hold the fourth special meeting with international, regional and subregional organizations in Almaty (Kazakhstan) from 26 to 28 January 2005 and conduct its first visit to one of the Member States.

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The Counter-Terrorism Committee welcomes the support it has received from Member States, the United Nations Secretariat and international, regional and subregional organizations and appreciates the contribution of its team of experts.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Andrey I. **Denisov**
Chairman
Security Council Committee established pursuant to
resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

Annex

Work programme of the Counter-Terrorism Committee (1 January-31 March 2005)

1. The present document sets out the work programme of the Counter-Terrorism Committee for its fourteenth 90-day period, from 1 January to 31 March 2005. This work programme updates that submitted for the thirteenth 90-day period (S/2004/820, annex).

Summary

2. The Counter-Terrorism Committee will:

(a) Continue close cooperation with the Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate in order to make the Directorate fully operational in the shortest possible time;

(b) Hold the fourth special meeting of the Counter-Terrorism Committee with international, regional and subregional organizations from 26 to 28 January 2005 in Almaty (Kazakhstan);

(c) Start visits to Member States in compliance with Security Council resolution 1535 (2004), with their consent and in accordance with the procedures agreed by CTC;

(d) Continue to circulate the States' Assistance Matrix on a monthly basis, to identify assistance needs and offers;

(e) By 31 January:

(i) Complete the review of 10 further reports;

(ii) Accelerate the preparation of assessments of the assistance needs of individual countries, including sending the assessments to the State concerned. The assessments are intended for eventual sharing with interested donor States and organizations;

(iii) The Chairman will give a joint briefing with the Chairmen of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban, and the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) to interested delegations on the cooperation of the Committees;

(f) By 28 February:

(i) Complete the review of 10 further reports;

(ii) Pursuant to Security Council resolution 1566 (2004), develop, in consultation with relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and United Nations bodies, a set of best practices to assist States in implementing the provisions of resolution 1373 (2001) related to the financing of terrorism;

(g) By 31 March:

(i) Complete the review of 10 further reports;

(ii) Conduct the first visit to one of the Member States with its consent, with the aim of engaging in a direct dialogue to monitor the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001).

I. Implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001)

3. The Counter-Terrorism Committee and its subcommittees will continue to review the reports submitted by States pursuant to paragraph 6 of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001).

4. By 31 December 2004, the Committee had received 551 reports from States and others. They include first reports from 191 Member States and 6 from others, 160 second reports from Member States and 2 from others, 119 third reports from Member States and 1 from other, and 72 fourth reports from Member States. As indicated earlier, all States have submitted their first reports.

5. Nevertheless, 79 States have missed the deadlines for submission of their respective reports. The Committee urges all States that have not submitted their reports on time to submit them as soon as possible in fulfilment of the provisions of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001). The Committee will continue to work with States to address this issue, including considering the specific situation of States. The Chairman of the Committee will continue to provide the Council with the list of States late in the submission of their reports.

6. In accordance with Security Council resolution 1456 (2003), the Committee will continue to report regularly on the progress made by States regarding their obligation to report to the Council pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 1373 (2001).

7. The Committee will continue to encourage Member States to become parties as soon as possible to the relevant international conventions and protocols relating to terrorism, contained in paragraph 3 (d) of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and paragraph 2 (a) of the declaration annexed to Council resolution 1456 (2003), and to incorporate their provisions in domestic legislation.

II. Work of the Counter-Terrorism Committee

8. In accordance with Security Council resolutions 1535 (2004) and 1566 (2004), CTC will continue its efforts to ensure that the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate becomes fully operational as soon as possible. The Committee will consider ways to further increase its capacity, including through enhanced cooperation with the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban, and the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004).

9. The Counter-Terrorism Committee, including through the Chair, will work closely with the Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate in order to contribute to its success in the implementation of the provisions of Security Council resolutions 1535 (2004) and 1566 (2004).

10. The Committee will continue its activities aimed at facilitating technical assistance to Member States and reinforcing coordination and cooperation with international, regional and subregional organizations.

11. The Committee will conduct its first visit to one of the Member States in March 2005. The visit will take place in accordance with the general guidelines for conducting CTC visits to Member States and the procedures for the preparation, conduct and evaluation of the results of those visits. The Committee will use the visits to develop a direct dialogue with States and to fulfil effectively its mandate to monitor the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and facilitate the provision of technical and other assistance for such implementation.

12. While pursuing a case-by-case approach in monitoring the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), the Committee will bear in mind all international best practices, codes and standards that are relevant to the implementation of Council resolution 1373 (2001). Pursuant to Council resolution 1566 (2004), it will develop a set of best practices to assist States in implementing the provisions of Council resolution 1373 (2001) related to the financing of terrorism, in consultation with relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and United Nations bodies.

III. Technical assistance

13. The facilitation of the provision of technical assistance aimed at strengthening the counter-terrorism capacity-building of countries in need will remain one of the major objectives of the Counter-Terrorism Committee. The Committee will continue its efforts to enhance direct dialogue with Member States and the donor community on the issues of providing technical assistance that is better tailored to real needs. The Group of Eight Counter-Terrorism Action Group provides significant counter-terrorism assistance, which constitutes support for the Committee's work and the Committee will seek further reinforcement of cooperation with the Action Group.

14. The Committee will accelerate preparation of the assessments of countries' assistance needs. Those assessments, with the consent of the States concerned, will be shared with interested donor States and organizations in order to facilitate the provision of technical assistance for effective implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001).

15. The Committee has developed the Directory of Counter-Terrorism Information and Sources of Assistance, which can be consulted on its web site, at http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/committees/1373/ctc_da/index.html. The Directory is designed to be a source of information on counter-terrorism-related best practices, model laws and available assistance programmes. The Committee has also produced an Assistance Matrix to collect updated information on requests received from States and on assistance offered by potential providers, including international, regional and subregional organizations. The Committee will maintain both information resources.

16. The Committee encourages all relevant organizations to contact it on a regular basis to ensure that the information provided is both accurate and useful for Member States seeking technical assistance. The Committee also encourages organizations to continue to submit information on international best practices, codes and standards

relevant to the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and on any forms of assistance and guidance in implementing those best practices, codes and standards. The Committee further encourages Member States that have requested and received assistance to contact it and provide feedback.

IV. Transparency in the work of the Counter-Terrorism Committee

17. The Committee will uphold transparency as one of the basic principles of its work.

18. The Committee will continue to provide information on its activities on a regular basis, including through briefings for interested delegations by the Chairman. The next briefing will be held in January 2005.

19. The Committee will update its web site (http://www.un.org/sc/ctc) as a source of detailed information on all issues related to Security Council resolution 1373 (2001).

20. The Committee, through its Chairman, the Executive Director and, where appropriate, the Committee's experts, will continue to maintain close relations with organizations and programmes of the United Nations system on aspects relevant to international counter-terrorism efforts, within the scope of the mandate contained in Security Council resolution 1373 (2001).

21. States are encouraged to make direct contact with the subcommittees or the Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate to seek any clarification on the issues covered in their correspondence with the Committee or on any other issue (tel.: 1-212-963-3520 or 1-212-457-1266; fax: 1-917-367-5897; e-mail: ctc@un.org). In addition, CTC experts and the Directorate, once it becomes fully operational, may, when it is deemed appropriate, contact States to seek further clarification from them on issues arising from their reports.

V. Cooperation between the Counter-Terrorism Committee and international, regional and subregional organizations

22. Pursuant to the action plan agreed at the special meeting of the Committee held on 6 March 2003, CTC has been expanding its contacts and cooperation with international, regional and subregional organizations. In accordance with Security Council resolution 1566 (2004), CTC will continue its efforts to strengthen its interaction with those organizations in order to facilitate full and timely implementation of Council resolution 1373 (2001). In cooperation with the Commonwealth of Independent States, it will hold the fourth special meeting with international, regional and subregional organizations in Almaty (Kazakhstan) from 26 to 28 January 2005.

23. The Committee, through its Chairman and the Executive Director, and, where appropriate, the Committee's experts, will continue to establish new contacts and deepen existing ones with organizations outside the United Nations system by attending regional meetings and conferences.